

Listing of Claims

1. -45. (Canceled)

46. (Currently Amended) A method of identifying a compound that decreases binding of an HIV envelope protein to a ~~host~~ human Rab9 protein ~~and decreases HIV infection~~, comprising:
contacting ~~the host protein~~ a human Rab9 protein with ~~the~~ an HIV envelope protein and a test compound to allow interaction between the human Rab9 protein and the HIV envelope protein, ~~wherein the host protein is encoded by a human Rab9 target sequence~~; and
determining whether binding of the HIV envelope protein to the ~~host~~ human Rab9 protein is decreased in the presence of the test compound, the decrease in binding being an indication that the test compound decreases the binding of the HIV envelope protein to the ~~host~~ human Rab9 protein, ~~and decreases HIV infection~~.

47. – 71. (Canceled)

72. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 46, wherein the method comprises expressing the ~~host~~ human Rab9 protein in a cell, and contacting the ~~host~~ human Rab9 protein with the HIV envelope protein and a test compound comprises exposing the cell to the HIV envelope protein and the test compound.

73. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 46, wherein the ~~host~~ human Rab9 protein or the HIV envelope protein comprises a label, and determining whether binding is decreased comprises detecting an amount of label present.

74. – 76. (Canceled)